

*Why a Bicycle Boulevard?*  
Low-traffic neighborhood streets are safer and healthier than bicycle lanes on high-traffic streets. Appealing Bicycle Boulevards can help Tucsonans to save money, get exercise, and be green by choosing to bicycle to school, work, or recreational activities.



Bike boxes such as the one above improve safety by allowing bicyclists to stop where they can be easily seen by drivers.

*Will I still be able to drive my car along the route?*  
Yes, a Bicycle Boulevard is a shared-use street open to cars, but some entry and through restrictions would limit cut-through motor vehicle traffic in the north-south direction. You will still be able to turn off the major roads and on to the Bicycle Boulevard.

*Will I still be able to park my car along the route?*  
Yes, on-street parking will remain. Bikes simply share the main traffic lane when traveling on the Bicycle Boulevard.

*Is there anything else like this in Tucson?*  
Yes, the city’s most popular bicycle path, the 3rd Street /University Boulevard Bikeway, has features which look and feel similar to those proposed for the 4th Avenue and Fontana Bicycle Boulevard.



Limiting through traffic at strategic junctures, as was done at the five main intersections along the 3rd Street bicycle path (shown above,) helps discourage non-local, cut-through traffic. This ‘Toucan’ style crossing also provides a safe, controlled crossing for both pedestrians and bicyclists.

*Why should I bicycle?*  
Save money: The American Automobile Association (AAA) estimates the average cost of operating a compact car for 15,000 miles is \$7,823!  
  
Save time: Bike commuting often takes less time considering parking and traffic.

Get exercise: Biking is a great low-impact workout.

Be green: Bikes create no air or noise pollution.

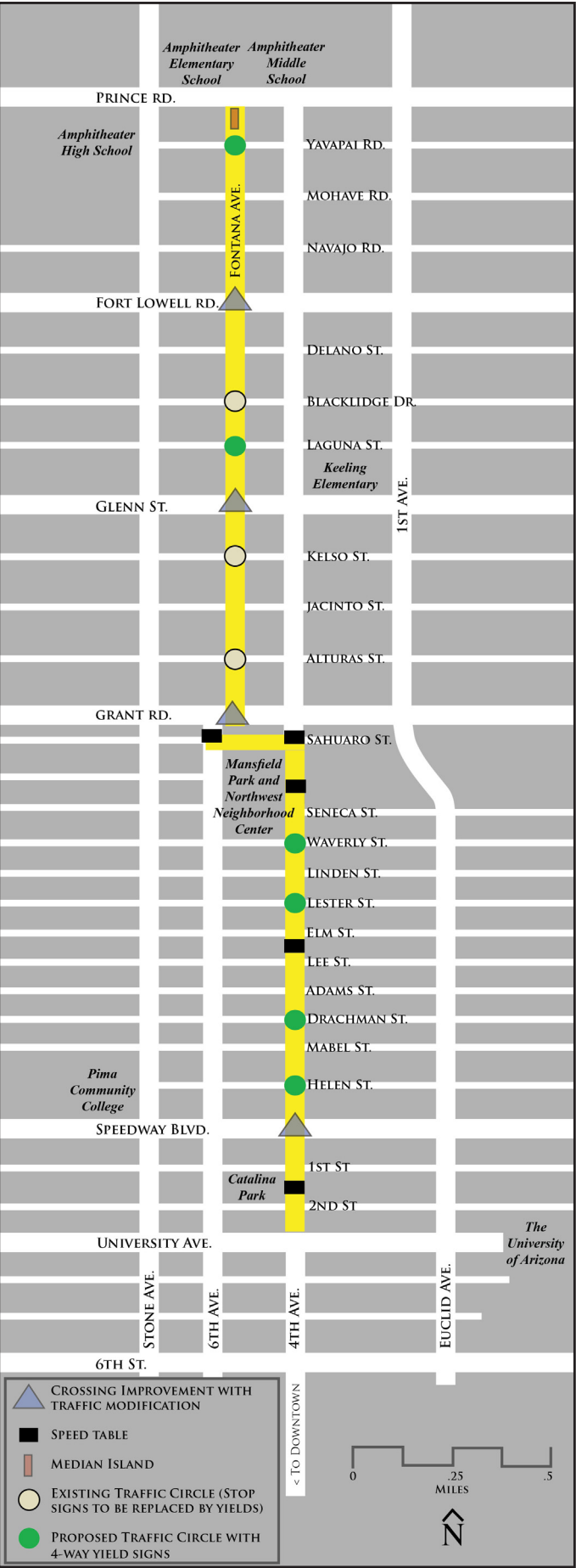
Have fun: Biking on safe streets is a fun activity the whole family can enjoy.



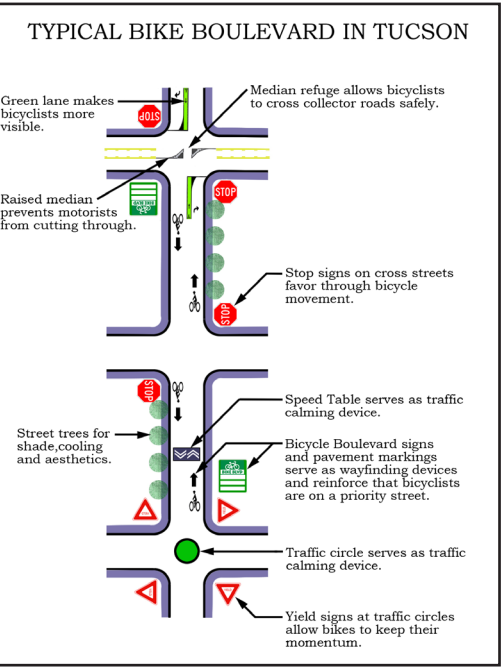
Traffic circles and speed tables (shown above) help to reduce vehicular speeds and make the road safer for all users.

*How will our street change?*  
The 4th Avenue/Fontana Avenue Bicycle Boulevard will include the installation of distinctive Bicycle Boulevard way-finding signage, as well as shade-giving street trees, which will be placed at intervals along the entire route. The design also includes five speed tables, six new traffic circles and four signal improvements with traffic modifications that partially limit through travel and movement for motorists.

The specific locations of these elements are shown on the project map to the right. To see more detailed plans, please visit the project website at [www.dot.tucsonaz.gov/projects/bikeboulevards](http://www.dot.tucsonaz.gov/projects/bikeboulevards)



The project map above shows the location of major design elements along the planned 4th Avenue/Fontana Avenue Bicycle Boulevard. Traffic circles, speed tables and intersection improvements have been carefully designed to help calm traffic and increase visibility, comfort and safety for bicyclists and pedestrians using the route.



All Bicycle Boulevard in Tucson will include the combination of traffic calming and design elements shown above.

*Why 4th Avenue/Fontana Avenue?*  
The 4th Avenue/Fontana Avenue Bicycle Boulevard will provide a safe and comfortable connection for thousands of residents between Prince Road and University Boulevard with area schools, parks, jobs, shops, and restaurants. This route also intersects several other bicycle-friendly potential Bicycle Boulevard streets that easily reach major area destinations including the University of Arizona, Pima Community College, the 4th Avenue Shopping District, Main Gate Square, and downtown.

*Where did this idea originate?*  
Bicycle Boulevards have become very popular in numerous cities in the western United States such as Portland, Oregon and Berkeley, California. The



City of Berkeley has very high rates of bicycle ridership. due partially to their investment in attractive Bicycle Boulevards like the one shown above.



City of Tucson Bicycle and Pedestrian Program Manager Tom Thivener presents the 4th Avenue/Fontana Avenue Bicycle Boulevard concept and preliminary design at a public meeting in August, 2009.

popularity of the 3rd Street/University bicycle path here in Tucson indicates that there is also a strong desire for paths which prioritize bicyclists safety and comfort in this city. Responding to this desire, the City has become interested in developing more bicycle routes that appeal to a broad spectrum of riders, and simultaneously benefit pedestrians and beautify neighborhoods with shade trees and traffic calming.

The initial project plans for the 4th Avenue/Fontana Avenue Bicycle Boulevard were developed in 2008 by the Drachman Institute at The University of Arizona in collaboration

with the Neighborhood Associations along the corridor. The concept soon received support from all the neighborhoods along the corridor. The City of Tucson was then able to secure Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) funds to design and construct the project in late 2008. The design was shown to the public at three public meetings in October, 2009. Feedback from those meetings helped form the final design, which was presented at a public open house in December, 2009. Two rounds of postcards requesting input from residents along the corridor were mailed prior to the fall of 2009

### Project Timeline:

**Spring 2008**  
Northwest neighborhood works with the Drachman Institute to develop the idea of a bicycle-friendly street in their neighborhood.

**Fall 2008**  
The Drachman Institute develops conceptual plans for the corridor and presents to Keeling, El Cortez, Amphi, Feldmans and West University Neighborhood Associations at their general meetings, receiving unanimous support for the Bicycle Boulevard concept.

**Winter 2008**  
RTA funding is secured.

**August 2009**  
City holds three public meetings at the Northwest Neighborhood Center. Public gets presentation on Bicycle Boulevard basics and gets to see the proposed design.

**Fall 2009**  
Neighborhood feedback on the proposed Bicycle Boulevard is received at a series of public open houses held at Northwest Neighborhood Center, which is located along the proposed route.

**December 2009**  
City holds an open house at the Northwest Neighborhood Center showing the final plan to the public.

**Spring 2010**  
Residence Response Form mailed out to neighbors along the corridor.

**Fall 2010**  
Anticipated start of improvements.

To receive this information in Spanish, please call 791-4371.  
Para recibir esta información en Español, sírvase llamar al 791-4371.

**Learn more about Bicycle Boulevards and this project at [www.dot.tucsonaz.gov/projects/bikeboulevards](http://www.dot.tucsonaz.gov/projects/bikeboulevards)**



# 4TH AVE / FONTANA AVE

## BICYCLE BOULEVARD



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## BICYCLE BOULEVARD

*A Bicycle Boulevard for you!*

The City of Tucson Department of Transportation is in the final stages of design to convert 4th and Fontana Avenues into an enhanced bikeway, or Bicycle Boulevard. This Bicycle Boulevard will provide bicyclists of all abilities a safer and more pleasant route to area jobs, schools, parks, restaurants and shopping. Car traffic and on-street parking will still exist along the corridor, only cut-through traffic is discouraged through the design.

This route is the first planned Bicycle Boulevard in Tucson. An entire interconnected network of Bicycle Boulevards is envisioned to help move Tucsonans around town by bike or on foot.

The plans include traffic calming, street trees and intersection modifications that allow bicyclists and pedestrians to cross intersections safely and efficiently, but that discourage cut-through car traffic. The concept has received support from the Amphi, Keeling, El Cortez Heights, North University, Feldmans, West University and Northwest Neighborhood Associations. Please take the time to evaluate the proposed project carefully to determine if you wish to support or oppose it.



Traffic circles, pavement markings, way finding signs and street trees are all part of the plans for the new 4th Avenue / Fontana Avenue Bicycle Boulevard.

*What is a Bicycle Boulevard?*

A Bicycle Boulevard is a street that has been made safer and more comfortable for bicyclists of all ages and ability levels through:

- **traffic calming** devices such as traffic circles, and speed tables
- **traffic reduction** through some traffic restrictions
- **safer crossings**
- **signage and pavement markings**
- **prioritization of bicycle travel**
- **other amenities**, such as street trees, public art, and bicycle parking.

*What will this Bicycle Boulevard include?*

- four crossing improvements,
- six new traffic circles with Yield signs,
- street trees,
- five speed tables,
- bike boxes,
- way finding bicycle kiosks
- signs and pavement markings,
- a change to four-way yield signs at existing traffic circles
- a median island with entry feature at Prince Rd. and Fontana Ave.
- smoother paving for bicycles on 4th Avenue from University to Speedway.



*Bicycling: Clean, healthy, economical... and fun!*

